AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

retrieving means for retrieving, from an information signal, a detection signal including ~~for detecting~~ digital watermark information;

communicating means for transmitting the detection signal to a watermark detection server ~~another apparatus~~ over a network;

receiving means for ~~and~~ receiving a processed result from the watermark detection server, the processed result being derived from ~~for~~ the digital watermark information ~~detected from the detection signal~~;

controlling means for restricting processing ~~performing control so as to restrict processing~~ of the information signal[[,]] based on the processed result; and

storing means for storing the processed result ~~in a manner capable of communicating with another apparatus~~.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controlling means generates a warning when an improper condition for executing processing on the information signal is detected based on the processed result.

4. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the controlling means generates different warnings based on a ~~varied warning in accordance with the~~ number of detections of the improper condition.

5. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when an improper condition for executing processing on the information signal is detected based on the processed result, the controlling means imposes a restriction on a capability of processing the information signal in accordance with the number of detections of the improper condition.

6. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the retrieving means retrieves the detection signal from the information signal by filtering the information signal in accordance with [[the]] a setting of a predetermined parameter.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter is set so that less processing is required to derive the digital watermark information from the detection signal than is required to derive the digital watermark information from the information signal ~~selectively sets a portion having a high distribution rate to the detection of relevant information based on the detection signal~~.

8. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a frequency band filter that passes a frequency band of the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information.

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a playback interval ~~the range of playback time~~ of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

10. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter sets [[the]] a range of a frame or field of playback video of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

11. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6 , wherein the predetermined parameter sets [[the]] a range of pixels for playback video of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

12. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a level range of a playback signal of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

13. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a level range of a band-separated playback signal of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

14. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined parameter selectively sets an intra picture of a group-of-picture structure when an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed is compressed and encoded in compliance with a motion picture experts group 2 standard.

15. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising:

~~a retrieving step of~~ retrieving, from an information signal, a detection signal ~~for detecting~~ including digital watermark information;

~~a communicating step of~~ transmitting the detection signal to a watermark detection server over a network; ~~another apparatus and~~

receiving a processed result from the watermark detection server, the processed result being derived from ~~for~~ the digital watermark information ~~detected from the detection signal~~;

~~a controlling step of performing control so as to restrict~~ restricting processing of the information signal[[,]] based on the processed result; and

~~a storing step of~~ storing the processed result ~~in a manner capable of communicating with another apparatus~~.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 15, ~~wherein the controlling step generates~~ further comprising generating a warning when an improper condition for executing processing on the information signal is detected based on the processed result.

18. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 17, ~~wherein the controlling step generates a varied warning in accordance with the~~ further comprising generating different warnings based on a number of detections of the improper condition.

19. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 15, ~~wherein,~~ further comprising, when an improper condition for executing processing on the information signal is detected based on the processed result, ~~the controlling step imposes a restriction on~~ restricting a capability of processing the information signal in accordance with the number of detections of the improper condition.

20. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 15, wherein ~~the retrieving step retrieves~~ the detection signal is retrieved from the information signal by filtering the information signal in accordance with [[the]] a setting of a predetermined parameter.

21. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter is set so that less processing is required to derive the digital watermark information from the detection signal than is required to derive the digital watermark information from the information signal ~~selectively sets a portion having a high distribution rate to the detection of relevant information based on the detection signal~~.

22. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a frequency band filter that passes a frequency band of the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information.

23. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a playback interval ~~the range of playback time~~ of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

24. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter sets [[the]] a range of a frame or field of

playback video of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

25. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter sets [[the]] a range of pixels for playback video of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

26. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a level range of a playback signal of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

27. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter sets a level range of a band-separated playback signal of an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed.

28. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the predetermined parameter selectively sets an intra picture of a group-of-picture structure when an information signal on which the digital watermark ~~relevant~~ information is superimposed is compressed and encoded in compliance with a motion picture experts group 2 standard.

29. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a detection signal accumulation means for accumulating the detection signal if the information processing apparatus is not connected to the network, and for sending the accumulated detection signal to the watermark detection server when the information processing apparatus is subsequently connected to the network.

30. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if the processed result indicates a copyright violation, the information processing apparatus displays a warning during playback of the information signal.

31. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the warning is no longer displayed if the information processing apparatus receives a releasing instruction from a warning management server.